

## Child Welfare Partners Committee (CWPC)

### Meeting Notes

Thursday, June 11, 2020

Zoom Meeting

**Members in attendance:** Dawn Kekstadt, Janee Harvey, Susan Smalley, Darin Thompson (*reserve for Jean Slaybaugh*), Debbie Orduna, Theresa Lewis, Liam Healy, Matt Majeski, Emily Blomme, Chris Koeplin, and Teresa Burke

**Members not in attendance:** Heidi Kammer-Hodge

**Observers in attendance:** Kristie Oliver

#### **Summary of Meeting:**

##### ***Follow-Up Discussion from the May 14<sup>th</sup> CWPC meeting***

Matt provided an update from the SAM meeting. He discussed the list of agenda items the CWPC providers had identified as beneficial to cover consistently at service area meetings. The SAMs responded favorably.

Committee members did not send Dawn information about data they would like shared and reviewed on a regular basis. Matt, Theresa, and Emily reported that they had a data discussion at the Cedar Rapids Service Area meeting. Participants at that meeting identified that they would like to review the number of children in a homelike setting, length of time services were open, and distance of placement from home. **Next steps regarding the data project:**

- Committee members will send Dawn information about data they would like shared and reviewed on a regular basis.
- Dawn will compile the information for the next CWPC meeting so that the committee can identify potential sources for the information as well as a process for communicating that information out.

Additionally, Matt and Emily reported that they had discussion at the Cedar Rapids Service Area meeting regarding the need to consider data around racial disparity. They are in the process of identifying what data has value, where the data would come from, and how the data would be utilized to measure improvement.

##### ***Role of CWPC in Addressing Racial Disparity in the Child Welfare System***

The meeting then pivoted to what action CWPC could take to assist with addressing racial disparity in the child welfare system. Janee provided an update regarding a meeting with Cultural Equity Alliance that she and Matt participated in. She discussed some of the challenges with pulling necessary data together. Janee emphasized the need for a consistent cultural equity lens and that efforts need to be done in collaboration with Cultural Equity Alliance. Matt, with support from Janee, will put together a draft document to be reviewed by SAMs, CWPC, and Cultural Equity Alliance. CWPC provider members agreed that they would take the conversation back to Coalition.

##### ***Family First Dashboard***

Janee provided information regarding the development of a Family First Dashboard. It is intended to create an easy way to track success of implementation as well as to provide transparency about

performance. The dashboard will include the following:

- Total foster care population- this will be a point in time metric
- Of children in foster care, the percentages that are placed in unlicensed relative placement, non-relative placement, and licensed relative/fictive kin
- Total group care and shelter care population
  - The number of children in these settings has already been reduced by over 1/3 since 2017
- Repeat maltreatment
- Re-entry into foster care rate

The committee members discussed the potential to add information regarding diversion as well as length of stay at group and shelter. Diversion is currently tracked under CWES and is very different in various areas of the state. These dynamics would make it difficult to add to the dashboard. Length of stay at group care and shelter would only be able to be measured at discharge and may not capture lengthy stays. The committee members also discussed considering utilizing average daily census to measure the total foster care population instead of a point in time. Janee will follow up regarding this possibility and will provide more information in the future regarding the target date for release.

### ***System Role Defining/Role Mapping***

As the July 1<sup>st</sup> Family First changes approach and as work is underway to more fully integrate systems, the need to develop informational material that demonstrates and defines cross-system roles and responsibilities has been a significant theme in multiple meetings with participants from DHS, JCS, IME, and provider agencies. CWPC role is to review the various mapping and role defining projects from a systemic perspective.

- ***Understanding Roles Across Contracts***

This document is posted on the CWPC website and came up as a helpful document for assisting with understanding roles across contracts both within DHS as well as between DHS, IME, and JCS. This document would need to be updated with the new contract information if CWPC continues to see the benefit. There was discussion regarding the history and the purpose of the document. Committee members agreed that it is a helpful document as it provides a comprehensive overview. They identified the potential to leverage CWPTA to utilize the document for some staff onboarding materials. However, committee members agreed that the document could potentially be overwhelming if the intended audience is families. Members agreed to update the current Understanding Roles Across Contracts document and develop separate tips sheets. **Next steps**

**include:**

- Theresa will start updating the current document to reflect some of the contract changes.
- Chris will pull together information regarding SAL and PAL to add to the overview.
- Teresa will provide a trifold that she uses with families as a reference for the tip sheets.
- All materials will be submitted to Dawn by July 2<sup>nd</sup> to send out with the July meeting agenda.

- ***Evidence-Based Practice***

The IME/DHS/JCO/Provider workgroup has identified seven Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs) to start mapping the community providers implementing these EBPs and the populations they are providing them to. This activity will assist with understanding current capacity and identify the potential to build capacity through braided funding.

- ***SUD Service and Resource Mapping***

The Vision Counsel SUD workgroup has identified the need to engage in review and mapping activity to develop a comprehensive understanding of SUD services available as well as the funding for those services. The workgroup members intend to look at population and trend data, regional distinctions, and EBPs in place across the public health continuum. This information will assist with identifying available resources as well as potential gaps in services. Emily suggested that the workgroup reach out to Flora Schmidt with Iowa Behavioral Health Association as she may already have much of that information compiled and mapped. Dawn will take this information back to the SUD workgroup.

- ***FCS and QRTP Alignment Around Pre-Placement, Placement, and Discharge***

FCS and QRTP contractors are working with the Coalition to develop an MOU to address the QRTP post-discharge services. In addition, these contractors are working on developing a schematic that reflects how FCS and QRTP align around pre-placement, placement, and discharge. The schematic will align with the MOU. CWPC members identified that it would be beneficial to have a DHS representative participate in developing the schematic. Liam volunteered participate and communicate information from the workgroup out to DHS.

- **Next meeting: June 11<sup>th</sup> from 1pm – 3pm**  
**Zoom meeting**